

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 15-22 are pending. In the present amendment, Claim 6 is currently amended, Claims 4, 7, and 8 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new Claims 21 and 22 are added. Claim 6 is hereby amended to include the subject matter from canceled Claim 4. Support for new Claims 21 and 22 can be found in the original specification, for example, at page 24, lines 11-19. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Fukushi (Japanese Publication No. 49-12112); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Yutaka (Japanese Publication No. 08-244795); Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Cvacho (U.S. Patent No. 3,269,642); Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro (Japanese Publication No. 02-242750); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro and further in view of Yutaka; Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro, and further in view of Cvacho; Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro and Anonymous (Japanese Publication No. 53-72610); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro and Anonymous; Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Fukushi in view of Ichiro and Anonymous; Claims 2, 3, 5, and 15-20 were allowed; and Claims 6 and 7 were objected to, but indicated as including allowable subject matter.

In the Advisory Action dated August 28, 2009, it was noted that the amendment filed on August 10, 2009 was not entered because Claims 7 and 8 raised new issues and Claims 21 and 22 were added without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. Accordingly, on September 9, 2009, Applicants' representative contacted Examiner Morgan to inquire about a subsequent amendment in which Claims 7 and 8 were canceled being entered. It was discussed that, as Claims 7 and 8 would be canceled, they would not raise new issues and a corresponding number of finally rejected claims would be canceled such that Claims 21 and 22 also would not raise new issues. Examiner Morgan agreed that such an amendment would be entered without filing an RCE. Accordingly, the present amendment is hereby submitted for formal consideration.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowed and allowable subject matter in the claims. In response, allowable Claim 6 is hereby rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter from canceled independent Claim 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claim 6 be allowed.

As Claim 4, 7, and 8 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of Claims 4, 7, and 8 are moot and should be withdrawn.

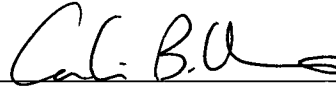
New Claims 21 and 22 are hereby added. Support for new Claims 21 and 22 can be found in the original specification, for example, at page 24, lines 11-19. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added. Further, as new Claims 21 and 22 depend on allowed Claim 2, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 21 and 22 should also be allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Richard L. Chinn, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 34,305

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)

Colin B. Harris
Registration No. 58,969